WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A hand held torque meter for sensing the torque required to axially move a threaded closure relative to the threaded neck of an associated container comprising:

a first section graspable by the hand of a user, including means for displaying a torque measurement;

a second section having means for grasping a removable closure of a container; and

means connecting said first section to said second section, said means including a load cell having an output connected to the displaying means of said first section, whereby the force required to cause movement between a closure and the threaded neck of an associated container produces an output signal from the load cell to the torque displaying means of said first section indicating the torque required to effect a movement of the closure relative to the associated container.

2. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 1 wherein said second section includes depending fingers for gripping a removable closure.

3. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 2 wherein said fingers are spaced apart.

4. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 3 wherein said fingers are provided with a elastomeric coating.

5. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 1 wherein said second section includes a depending closure gripping device.

6. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 5 wherein said gripping device is provided with an opening for receiving the outer surface of a closure.

7. A hand held torque meter as defined in Claim 6 wherein said opening is frusto-conical in shape.